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Hypothesis;" it was referred to a committee, consisting of Prof. Kendall, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Marsh.

The stated business being called for, the report of the Special Committee on the Purchase of a Site for a new Hall was read from the minutes of October 7th. Mr. Fraley was requested to make a statement of the financial condition of the Society, which he did, and after debate by the members, the resolution of October 7th was again read, and, on the question being put to the meeting, it was not adopted.

On motion of Mr. Fraley, and at the suggestion of the Treasurer, the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars additional, was appropriated to the general account of the current year.

And the Society was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, November 18, 1864.

Present, twelve members.

Dr. Wood, President, in the Chair.

Letters accepting membership were read, from Prof. T. C. Porter, dated Lancaster, November 11th, and from Prof. Bernard Studer, dated Berne, October 30th, 1864.

Donations for the Library were received from the British Association for the Advancement of Science; the Royal Astronomical Society; Prof. Treadwell, of Cambridge, Mass.; Silliman's Journal; Dr. Tafel, and Blanchard & Lea, of Philadelphia.

Dr. Goodwin read an obituary notice of Dr. Hitchcock.

is addressed to human intelligence and human sympathy by the God of Nature and of Providence, and by the actual condition, the wants and the welfare, and the manifold activities and relations of mankind.

He was a scientific man, but not that alone. In recognizing the relations of his intellect to nature, he did not allow himself to become so absorbed in them as to forget the higher relations of mind and heart to God, and the broader and the closer relations of both to society.

In the imminent danger of his country, he was no mere ingenious Archimedes. He never would have met an irruption of hostile and triumphant soldiery into his house with a "*nolite turbare circulos meos.*" He was no literary recluse. He had no affinity of character with such a man as Joseph Scaliger. He could not have been so engrossed in the study of Homer as not to have been aware of such a scene as the massacre of St. Bartholomew's eve, or of his own hair-breadth escape from the common butchery, until the day subsequent to the catastrophe.

He observed, he studied, he thought, he felt, he acted; but he was no mere observer, no mere student, no mere thinker, no mere sentimentalist, no mere agitator or drudge, no mere fragment of humanity, however sharp, or polished, or brilliant. He was a whole-souled, large-minded, living man, recognizing his practical relations to man and God, as well as his intellectual relations to nature and truth. His highest ambition and most fervent prayer undoubtedly were, to be a true man and an earnest Christian, rather than a *savan* or a philosopher, to have his name written among the wise who shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, rather than emblazoned on the records of human science and learning. To him, as to Solomon, God gave more than he asked.

PHILADELPHIA, November 18, 1864.

The death of Dr. Heinrich Rose was announced by the Secretary, as having taken place at Berlin on the 27th of January last, at the age of sixty-eight years and five months.

The minutes of the last Stated Meeting of the Board of Officers and Council were read.

And the Society was adjourned.

Dr. Harris exhibited specimens of *Crude Borax* or *Tincal*, and *Refined Borax*, obtained from the lake country of California, about 130 miles north of San Francisco, where it is deposited in the form of small crystals, and large crystalline masses, varying from a few grains to half a pound in weight, at the bottom of several small lakes, the waters of which are saturated with this salt. The most important of these lakes is situated in the vicinity of "Clear Lake," and covers about 200 acres of land.

The existence of this mineral in California has been known for several years, but the greater inducements offered by gold mining, have occasioned it to be neglected until recently, when a Company was formed for the purpose of collecting and refining it. This corporation owns about 2200 acres of land, embracing the borax lakes, a boiling spring of boracic acid, and an immense deposit of sulphur, of a remarkable degree of purity.

The crude borax of California is remarkably fine, being crystallized in hexagonal prisms, of a slightly greenish hue, translucent, and efflorescing slowly. It is entirely free from any soapy or greasy feel, which is common to the crude borax of India, and is said to contain but about ten per cent. of impurities. The "refined borax," is not entirely pure, and not being prepared as it should be, contains too large a proportion of water of crystallization, the loss of which causes a considerable efflorescence to appear on the surface.

The Company raise the crude borax with a dredging machine, wash it free from mud, and then refine it. They intend, also, to evaporate the water of crystallization by artificial heat, and to combine the boracic acid of the boiling springs with soda. They have not as yet completed their arrangements, and have therefore prepared thus far comparatively little for the Eastern market.

Hitherto, we have been supplied with borax from Thibet and Persia, by the way of Calcutta; from Tuscany; and on this continent, from Peru and Ecuador. That from Thibet and Persia is obtained from lakes; that of Tuscany is produced artificially, from boracic acid springs, by reaction between the acid solution and carbonate of soda. South American borax is obtained by the purification of a mineral consisting in large measure of borate of soda and borate of lime. In a short time we shall, no doubt, be chiefly supplied from California.

Mr. Peale communicated a record of a portion of 134 soundings, taken by himself, along the Delaware River, at the Water Gap.

DELAWARE WATER GAP.

Record of the depth of water in the Delaware, as ascertained by 134 soundings, begun at the boat-landing, near the old Saw-mill above the Gap, and continued below the Gap, a distance of about 1¼ miles, on the 4th day of October, 1859; the river being at the average low water mark.

	Feet.	Inches.
Stern of the batteau,	3	4
At intervals, to the Bar,	4	
	4	6
	4	9
	4	6
	4	
	3	9
	3	
	2	9
	3	
	2	9
On the Bar,	2	3
	3	
	6	
	8	6
Middle Channel,	10	
	8	
Opposite small house on the Jersey shore,	9	
	8	9
	10	6
	11	
	12	
Opposite Lover's Leap,	13	
	12	9
	13	
Rebecca's Well,	15	6
	14	
	13	6
Old house on Pennsylvania side,	14	3

	Feet.	Inches.
Prospect Rock,	15	
	16	6
	17	6
	18	
Poplars on Jersey shore,	19	
	21	
	22	9
Above Point of Rocks,	23	
Sandy Bottom,	26	
	28	
Rocky Bottom, which runs from the shore, reducing the depth, as follows,	31	6
	24	
	20	
Thirty or forty feet further east,	27	
Point of Rocks,	25	
	26	
	23	
Sandy Bottom,	20	
Indian Mound, Stony Bottom,	18	
Creek Mouth from Dunfield's Hollow,	22	
	21	
Sandy Bottom,	22	
Slate Factory,	21	9
	19	3
	20	
Pennsylvania Mountain,	21	
	19	6
	18	
	17	6
	16	6
Between Pennsylvania and Jersey Mountains,	15	
	14	6
	13	
Outside, or below Pennsylvania Mountain,	16	
	17	
	18	6
	19	6
Muddy Bottom,	20	
	21	6

	Feet.	Inches.
	23	
	24	
Sandy Bottom,	27	
	33	
	35	
	36	6
Jersey Mountain Rocks dipping at a steep inclination into the River, ...	38	
	31	
	38	6
	33	
	30	
	32	6
Sand and rocks,	31	6
	33	
Outside the Gap, Sandy Bottom, . . .	37	6
	37	
	36	
	35	
	30	

The river decreases regularly in depth to the rapids below the Gap.

Opposite the "Indian Ladder," in a cove near shore, several soundings were made; the greatest depth of water was found to be 45 feet.

Mr. Peale observed that marks of water action were observable on portions of the rock at a considerable elevation above the present bed of the river; but if the theory of erosion, for the formation of the Gap, be accepted, a difficulty is presented by the depth of the water in the Gap, as shown by the soundings in the foregoing record, and the consequent gentle flow of the current; whilst at the distance of one and a quarter miles above and five hundred yards below the Gap the rapids occur, with insufficient water to float the rafts, which, consequently, are obliged to await the spring and fall freshets.

The constant rise of gas, observable from the deepest parts of the water, was also adverted to, as having a possible action in the formation of the Gap.

Remarks on the cause of the gaps and their relation to the general structure were made by Mr. Lesley.